ARUBA VISITOR'S GUIDE

GUIA PARA EL TURISTA EN ARUBA

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(With Aruba Road Map in color)

FREE COPY - GRATIS



Bonbini - Welcome - Bienvenidos

Our staff will gladly assist you with all possible information and suggestions to make your stay in Aruba a most pleasant and enjoyable vacation.

Al desearles una estadía muy placentera en esta isla, nos ponemos a sus órdenes para asistirles en la mejor forma posible.

Aruba TOURIST BUREAU

TEL. 3777

welcome, bienvenido, "bon bini" to Aruba MARISKA'S BOOKSTORE

We have for you, postcards, postage stamps and a mailing service. Also American magazines, English paperbacks, Aruba souvenirs and for stamp collectors we have all the stamps that you miss in your collection.



Dear Visitor, we would like to give you all sorts of clues to help plan your shopping. Cameras, watches, perfume, liquor, china....... These are just a few of the luxury items that Aruba's fine shops stock at practically free port prices. Price tags usually are marked in Netherlands Antilles Florins, but merchants readily accept U.S. currency. The official rate of exchange is 1.85 Florins to 1 U.S. Dollar. Most merchants give visitors an extra bargain by figuring the exchange on a flat 2-for-1 basis. Haggling is not an accepted custom in Aruba. Stores are open from 8—12 noon and 1.30 (2)—6 p.m. Monday thru Saturday.

A fine place to start your shop tour is at ANTONIO'S RES-TAURANT for good snacks and fast service. At the head of the Nassaustraat, the town's mainstreet, you face MAN-HATTAN STORE, INC. Enjoy pleasant shopping and look through their large assortment of international gift items; copper & brassware, Israeli ceramics, embroidered linens, beach wear..... and Samsonite suitcases. A few steps down is MARISKA'S BOOKSTORE. Here you'll find the largest assortment of postcards, slides, color films, of Aruba's finest spots and postage stamps to mail your letters and cards to all your friends (the mailing service is completely free of charge). Directly across the street is FANNY'S. Here you'll find cashmere sweaters, Indian silks, brocade and embroidered garments, French beaded bags, gold and silver charms crystal, Swiss watches, perfumes, souvenirs and gift items. Diner's Club and American Express Credit Cards are accepted. Next block is LEO BERLÎNSKI's jewelry store, which features platinum and 18 kt. gold jewelry, cultured pearls, the world famous Girard Perregaux and other well-known Swiss made watches. It carries sterling, silver plated and stainless steel cutlery, bone china and ceramic dinnerware, crystal from France, Finland, Sweden, and England, figurines, teakwood articles, petit point and beaded bags. Just in front of the taxi-stand you'll find ARUBA PEASANT SHOP, a shopper's paradise with handicrafts from all over the world, lovely dolls, a wide range of pipes; also Pringle cashmere sweaters, "Kislav" gloves and Imperial linens from Madeira. Now cross the street again and enter CASA HAIME. Featuring extensive lines of souvenirs, embroideries, jewelry, Mallorca pearls, Swiss watches, beach wear and boutiques. This modern store is air- & musiconditioned and service excellent. Continue to ARUBA TRADING COMPANY. Their well-trained and friendly staff will make your shopping a real pleasure. Here you will find an extensive collection of cosmetics, perfumes, men's and ladies wear, ties, gift articles, and souvenirs - all of first quality. They will gladly deliver your bonded liquors and cigarettes free of charge to your ship or plane. And don't forget to visit PHOTO EL GLOBO, annex to ARUBA TRADING, with their large selection of photographic equipment of world famous brand names. In the mainstreet the carillon and the lovely



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showcase displays indentify SPRITZER+FUHRMANN

"Jewelers of the Caribbean" with shops in Aruba, Bonaire, Curação, St. Maarten, and also in New York. You simply cannot miss this place. Its famous carillon bells with the revolving native figurines is an unforgettable experience in sound and sight. Sole representatives for over a dozen of the most famous Swiss brand watches including the Patek Phillippe, Audemars Piguet, Piaget, Omega, Eterna, and Ernest Borel. Exquisite collection of precious and semi-precious stones, lustrous pearls, and exclusive gold pieces. China and crystalware from the most famous houses in Europe. Sterling from England, Holland, and Denmark. Novelty watches and clocks covered by a guarantee that follows you home. SPRITZER & FUHRMANN has a trained staff capable of helping you make the wisest choice. The New York branch will gladly service your articles bought in the islands. It is interesting to know SPRITZER & FUHRMANN was three times winner of the Diamonds International Award and recently has been appointed Jewelers to Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands. The optical department "Optica Moderna" is located in front of Spritzer. From Spritzer's "Optica Moderna" we stroll toward PALAIS ORIENTAL, famous for moderna" we stroit toward FALAIS URIENTAL, famous for ivory and wood carvings from India, Haiti, Hong Kong and Africa. Also for your pleasure are exotic wearing apparel, such as shawls from India, and pipes from Denmark and Italy. You will find moderately priced perfumes and colognes by Christian Dior, Jean Patou, Guerlain and others, and many more articles from all over the world. Palais Oriental also have been appointed exclusive agents for the world-known Swiss watch "Harpoon". Your next stop is SHALIMAR PALACE. They offer you leather goods, per-fumes, cosmetics, fine shoes from all over the world, beaded sweaters, pure silk sarees, ladies dresses from many countries, and many more. Next block (behind No. 1 Store) we find LA VENEZOLANA, your best bet for fine men's wear. We continue our tour in the main street. A courteous "bon bini" awaits you at JEWELRY OLGA VASQUEZ for jewelry, watches and emerald and leather bags from Colombia. elry, watches and emerald and leather bags from Colombia. Probably you are now ready for a bite to eat. Walk up the street till you face the Esso station. Around the corner at your right you will be delighted with that very, very special Chinese and International food of HONG KONG RESTAURANT AND BAR, fully airconditioned. Now why not call a taxi (Tel. 1604 or 5160) and ask the driver to take you to the CORAL STRAND HOTEL, "Talk of the Town Restaurant," for a drink at the terrace bar and a swim in the fresh water pool. For a last suggestion, ask a cab to take you along the L.G. Smith Boulevard and drop you at the TROCA-DERO. Here you'll have the pleasure of choosing from many types of drinks and eating one of the many Trocadero sea types of drinks and eating one of the many Trocadero sea food specialties. On your way back to your hotel or while touring the island, on Aruba's marvelous sugar-white beach the MANCHEBO BEACH HOTEL invites you to sip and dip in a completely relaxing atmosphere overlooking the crystal-clear blue Caribbean. Last but not least, discovering the other end of the Island in the center of San Nicolas is the ASTORIA HOTEL. The open-air patio lovely decorated in Chinese style invites you to have your genuine Chinese food served under exotic tropical sky..... We hope you enjoy your stay in Aruba and say in Papiamento "Ayo" which means "Goodbye" or "So long"!

HOTEL RESTAURANT



- The only restaurant in Curação with Genuine Italian Dishes such as: Canelloni - Pizza -Lasagna - Veal Scalopine - Scampi
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- Situated in the middle of the shopping center.
- RATES: SINGLE \$ 9.45 **DOUBLE \$ 12.20** TRIPLE \$ 14.85

HOTEL RESTAURANT (Italian) SAN MARCO CURAÇÃO - NETH. ANTILLES - TEL. 12880

For Your Shopping We Recommend RECOMENDAMOS PARA SUS COMPRAS

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San Nicolas:

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For further information contact:

ARUBA INFORMATION CENTER

NEW YORK: 777 Third Avenue, 33rd. floor, New York

10017, Phone: 355-2740

PUERTO RICO: 804 Ponce de Leon Ave.

Miramar, Phone: 725-6700

CANADA: 1405 Bishop Street, Montreal, Quebec.

Phone: VI 5-0292

ARUBA: ARUBA TOURIST BUREAU, Oranjestad,

Aruba, Netherlands Antilles, Phone: 3777,

or your travel agent.

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- Haitian Wooden Wares & Crafts
 - 100% Woollen Ponchos (Ruanas)
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U.S. Customs Duties

Important: Because customs regulations were created primarily for importers of articles for resale, they are highly, complex and voluminous. Therefor non of the duty rates listed below should be considered absolute by the individual traveler. They have been gathered to serve as a general guide only. Some articles have no duty charge. Others such as clocks, are dutiable under more than one rate. It should also be remembered that customs authorities take "wear and tear" into consideration on items like wearing apparel if they have already been worn by the returning traveler. Per cent charges listed are on value of article - ad valorum.

Cameras, still, over \$ 10	12%
motion, over \$ 50	91/2%
China, bone	. 28%
Crystal	. 22%
Diamonds, cut but not set under ½ carat	. 6%
over $\frac{1}{2}$ carat	. 8%
Jewelry, gold 19%; silver	19-44%
Leather handbags	. 18%
Music boxes	11-20%
Pearls, loose or temporarily strung: cultured	4%
natural	. 11/2%
Perfume 12 c/lb. +	12%
Silk knits (as wearing apparel)	20%
Sterling flatware	14-20%
Toys	19-28%
Wood carvings	. 15%

Airconditioned Dining Room overlooking the Schooner Harbor



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- Curry dishes

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Aruba



Aruba, first of the ABC islands, is the most western of the Leeward group of the Netherlands Antilles. It lies 15 miles from the Venezuelan coast, 12 degrees, 24 minutes north of the equator. It is 19.6 miles long, six miles in width at its widest point, and contains 70.9 square miles of rocky red hills and magnificent white sand beaches, surrounded by the deep blue Caribbean.

The average yearly temperature is 82 degrees, with the coolest months January and February and the warmest August and September. The air is lively and sparkling because the humidity averages only 76 per cent. Average annual rainfall is less than 20 inches. Aruba time is 1 hour ahead of Eastern Standard Time and 4 hours earlier than G.M.T.

THE PEOPLE AND THEIR LANGUAGES

Aruba is the only Caribbean island on which the Indian population was not exterminated. The Aruban today is a descendant of Indians, with a mixture of Spanish and Dutch blood of the early colonizers. Arubans, those born on the island, number about 36,000. All are citizens of the Netherlands. Over 40 nationalities (total population 59,000) living peacefully together on the island.

The Leeward islands (Aruba, Bonaire, Curação) have a living language of their own - Papiamento. It is a "lingua franca" that has evolved from Spanish, Portuguese and Dutch with some Indian words. Almost everybody on Aruba speaks Papiamento, Dutch, Spanish and English.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Tourist:

Rivièra invites YOU

Rivièra

Nassaustraat (Mainstreet) 20

Tel. 3663

Watersports



The waters surrounding Aruba are wonderful natural playgrounds. Deep-sea fishing is excellent. The best sport fish in local waters is the Balahu, followed closely by the blue and white marlin.



Skin diving has been popular on Aruba for many years. The waters around the island are exceptionally clear. Underwater visibility of as much as 150 feet is not unusual. As popular as skin diving is waterskiing. Because the Caribbean on the leeward side of Aruba is always calm, it provides a fine course for waterskiiers. Instructors will show the beginner the elements of waterskiing and have him zooming across the turquoise waters in no time.



Boats and equipment are for rent. Guides familiar with local waters are available to show visitors the best places for diving, underwater photography or spearfishing. For the more sedentary, there are glass bottom sightseeing boats that cruise over the island's reefs and sunken wrecks.





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WHEN AT ARUBA DO AS ARUBA DOES



Yes, enjoy the sugar white beach all to yourselves; enjoy the sparkling clear sea water, the clean air, and among other things, enjoy AMSTEL BEER, one of the world's finest beers, brewed with pure distilled water in the Netherlands Antilles and the finest hops and malts to guarantee fresh quality!

THAT'S ARUBA! THAT'S AMSTEL!

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LOCAL CIVIC CLUBS



KIWANIS - Dinner meeting at Coral Strand Hotel every Monday at 7:30 p.m.



LIONS - Dinner meeting at Trocadero Restaurant every first and 3rd Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.



ROTARY - Dinner meeting at Trocadero Restaurant every Monday at 6:45 p.m.



TOASTMASTERS - Dinner meeting at Trocadero Restaurant every third Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.



JAYCEES - Dinner meeting at Coral Strand Hotel every second Thursday at 8:00 p.m.

Alliance Française: For information call 7215 Y'S MEN CLUB: For information call 5303.

MASONIC LODGES

Lodge "El Sol Naciente"

Longfellowstraat 3, Oranjestad

Secr.: tel. 1818

King Solomon's Lodge

Savaneta 123 B Secr.: tel. 5619

Lodge "Hiram 102"

Pos Chiquito Secr.: tel. 5431

ROSICRUCIAN ARUBA CHAPTER, AMORC.

Savaneta 202. For info call 3263. Meetings: every Thursday evening

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Free lending to tourists of books in English, Spanish, Dutch; o.a. books on Aruba and other Caribbean islands.

Open: for reading magazines and newspapers, Monday thru Friday from 7:30-12 a.m. and 2-5:30 p.m. (Tuesdays and Fridays till 8:45 p.m.). For lending of books during afternoon hours only.

For information phone 1580 or make a personal call at 6 Wilhelminastraat, Oranjestad or (only during afternoon hours) at the Government Building in San Nicolas (opposite





ENTERTAINMENT

ARUBA CARIBBEAN HOTEL-CASINO: Klompen Klub - Bali Bar

ARUBA-SHERATON HOTEL & CASINO:

Rembrandt Room (Supper Club)

Club Diablo

Discotheque: Thursday, Friday & Saturday 9 p.m. -2 o'clock in the morning; 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. Sundays.

DE OLDE MOLEN (closed on Mondays):

Mill-O-Theque: 10 p.m. - 2 o'clock in the morning; Saturday 11 p.m. - 5 o'clock in the morning.

MANCHEBO BEACH HOTEL:

Andicouri Room - open: 7 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Vespucci sunken pool bar - open: 9 p.m. - 1 o'clock in the morning.

DIVI-DIVI BEACH HOTEL

CORAL STRAND HOTEL "Talk of the Town Restaurant" Moonlight Grill

HOTEL "THE CACTUS INN":

Discotheque: 9 p.m. - 2 o'clock in the morning (except Tuesdays)

MOVIE THEATRES:

ORANJESTAD: DE VEER (next to Trocadero Restaurant) RIALTO

BALASHI (near Waterplant): DRIVE-IN, 8:30 p.m. SAN NICOLAS: PRINCIPAL

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FOR DETAILS

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ARUBA-SHERATON HOTEL
OLDE MOLEN "THE FRYING DUTCHMAN"
MANCHEBO BEACH HOTEL
DIVI-DIVI BEACH HOTEL
"TALK OF THE TOWN RESTAURANT" Coral Strand Hotel
TROCADERO RESTAURANT
FLOATING BALI RESTAURANT
HOTEL CACTUS INN "SALON DE MADRID"
HONG KONG RESTAURANT
HOTEL NASSAU
ANTONIO'S COFFEE SHOP & RESTAURANT
HOTEL CENTRAL
MANDARIN RESTAURANT
PARIS RESTAURANT
ESSO CLUB (SAN NICOLAS)
HOTEL ASTORIA (SAN NICOLAS)

HOTELS

ARUBA-SHERATON HOTEL & CASINO (Resort Hotel) 202 rooms.

ARUBA CARIBBEAN HOTEL-CASINO (Resort Hotel) 200 rooms, 20 cabanas.

BASI RUTI BEACH HOTEL (Resort Hotel) - 15 rooms HOLIDAY INN HOTEL (Resort Hotel) - 209 rooms MANCHEBO BEACH HOTEL (Resort/Commercial Hotel) 72 bungalows.

DIVI-DIVI BEACH HOTEL (Resort) 40 cottages
CORAL STRAND HOTEL (Resort/Commercial Hotel)
28 rooms.

HOTEL CENTRAL (Commercial Hotel) - 25 rooms
CACTUS INN (Commercial Hotel) - 21 rooms
NASSAU HOTEL (Commercial Hotel) - 11 rooms
HOTEL CAPITAL (Commercial Hotel)
ASTORIA HOTEL (Commercial Hotel) San Nicolas
10 rooms.



Aruba-Sheraton Hotel & Casino

invites you to visit its facilities

REMBRANDT ROOM (Supper Club)

Here you will find excellent food and international shows, amidst reproductions of Rembrandt paintings on walls of red felt and beautiful chairs covered in black and gold cut velvet.

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CATHOLIC SERVICES SUNDAY MASSES -

SERVICIOS DOMINICALES EN LAS IGLESIAS CATOLICAS

Oranjestad: 6:30 a.m.; 8:30 a.m.; 12:00 a.m.; 5:00 p.m.; 7:00 p.m.

Noord: 5:30 a.m.; 7:00 a.m.; 8:30 a.m.; 6:00 p.m. Tanki Leendert - Monte Galvario Chapel: 8:00 a.m.

San Nicolas: 5:30 a.m.; 8:30 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 5:00 p.m. San Nicolas - Emmanuel Chapel: 7:30 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

PROTESTANT CHURCH - MISA PROTESTANTE

Oranjestad: Sunday at 9:00 a.m.; Domingo a las 9:00 a.m.

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE - SINAGOGA ISRAELITA

Oranjestad: Friday at 8:00 p.m.; Viernes a las 8:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Seroe Colorado: Sunday at 11:00 a.m. (in English)

METHODIST CHURCH

San Nicolas: 9:00 a.m.; 7:30 p.m. Brasil: 11:00 a.m.; 7:30 p.m. Oranjestad: 11:00 a.m.



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Bali Pier

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CHARLANDO SOBRE LAS TIENDAS

Amigos visitantes: Quisiera ante todo saludarles con la cordial bienvenida del nativo, !Bon Biní;; que los días pasados en nuestra amada isla dejen en Uds. recuerdos memorables y gratos.

Para contribuir a ello, permítame servirles de guía acompañándoles en esta, su primera jira de compras. Para realizarla recorreremos casi de extremo a extremo la calle principal, que se llama Nassaustraat y que es el centro comercial de Oranjestad.

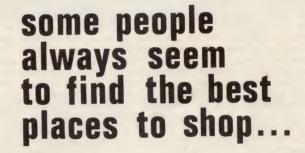
Empecemos por visitar a FANNY'S SHOP, una tienda donde podremos adquirir artículos en cuero, sweaters de Angora y de Cachemira; chales, perfumes y tallas balinesas e hindús en madera y en marfil.

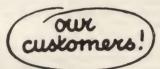
En la misma acera nos queda la JOYERIA DE LEO BER-LINSKI, donde él, personalmente o su esposa o una de sus bien entrenadas empleadas nos atenderán con amable solicitud. Aquí se ofrecen joyas de oro con piedras preciosas y semipreciosas; juegos en filigrana o en modernos diseños de platino u oro de 18K.; perlas cultivadas; relojes suizos de bien reputadas marcas, destacándose entre ellos los mundialmente famosos relojes Girard Perregaux. Leo Berlinski tiene en existencia cubiertos en plata pura, platinados o de acero inoxidable; vajillas de fina porcelana y de céramica; cristalería de Francia, Finlandia, Suecia e Inglaterra, así como figurillas, artículos de madera de teca y preciosas carteras bordadas en petit point o en mostacilla; todos en gran variedad de diseños y a precios adecuados al presupuesto del cliente

En la próximo puerta está ARUBA PEASANT SHOP, que le ofrece sweters, bordados, guantes "Kislav", fina lencería de Madeira, pipas en gran variedad, también encontrará Ud. bellisimos objetos de arte de Méjico y preciosas muñecas del prés

Salimos y al frente está la ARUBA TRADING COMPANY, con su anexo PHOTO EL GLOBO. En esta tienda, la fama de la cortesía de sus empleados corre pareja con la fama de los artículos de primera calidad que ofrece. Las damas encontrarán aquí una enorme variedad de cosméticos y perfumes de las más famosas casas francesas y americanas, así como la más fina lencería, ropa de niños y regalos. Los caballeros encontrarán desde calzado hasta sombreros y trajes para todas las ocasiones, artículos de tocador que Ud. prefiera, licores y cigarrillos; todo de bien reputadas marcas. Sin ningún costo adicional la ARUBA TRADING le enviará a su avión o vapor los licores o cigarrillos libres de impuesto que Ud. haya comprado.

Capítulo aparte merece PHOTO EL GLOBO, especializandose en cámaras y equipo fotográfico, grabadores de cinta magnetofónica, telescopios, radios y televisores en miniatura — de lo más pequeño hasta lo más grande y técnico en esta línea lo podrá Ud. encontrar en PHOTO EL GLOBO.





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RUTI HOTEL especializado en platos italianos. Si quiere disfrutar del paisaje marino dirijase al TROCADERO y ordene un plato a base de mariscos, que son la especialidad de este restorán. Pero la hora avanza y hemos de proseguir con nuestras compras. En el próximo bloque (donde está el No. 1 Store) los caballeros no querrán perderse una vista a LA Store) los caballeros no querran perderse una vista a LA VENEZOLANA, de reputada fama por sus artículos finos para caballeros. Otra vez en la calle principal entraremos en la JOYERIA Y RELOJERIA OLGA VASQUEZ. Su dueña nos atenderá personalmente con ese donde gentes que la caracteriza; ella misma, probablemente, nos dirá de las varias casas de relojería suizas que representa con exclusividad, haciéndonos admirar las joyas auténticas italianas y las fantasías alemanas que exhibe en sus vitrinas; llaman la atención sus joyas de oro macizo y esmeraldas de Colombia.

Para cerrar con broche de oro nuestra jira de compras les iguiero ahora una visita al famoso "Vespucci Bar" del MAN-CHEBO BEACH HOTEL, situado en la hermosa playa blanca. Aquí también Ud. puede gozar de los deportes acuáticos o bolas criollas.

Llegada la hora de las despedidas sólo me queda decirles: ¡Hasta pronto, amigos! ¡Que hayan disfrutado de nuestra jira de compras!

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Durante su permanencia en Aruba, y a fin de conocer mejor nuestra isla Ud. puede contratar los servicios de un taxi, visitar los puntos de interés en una excursión de turismo o alquilar un automóvil y conducirlo Ud. mismo. Para esto último, Ud. puede adquirir una licencia temporal presentando su licencia válida expedida en su país de origen.

La unidad monetario de Aruba es el florín de las Antillas Neerlandesas, símbolo del cual es Fl. o F. El tipo de cambio vigente es de F. 1,85 al dólar de los Estados Unidos o F. 0,42 al bolivar venezolano para cheques de viajeros. Muchos comerciantes hacen el tipo de cambio más atractivo, dando 2

florines por dólar americano cuando Ud. hace sus compras. El florín tiene 100 centavos. Monedas de plata de 5, 10 y 25 centavos, 1 florín y $2\frac{1}{2}$ florines; las de cobre son de 1 y $2\frac{1}{2}$ centavos. Las monedas de 5 centavos son muy populares como souvenir, pues son cuadradas. Hay billetes de banco en denominación de $2\frac{1}{2}$, 5, 10, 25, 100, 250 y 500 florines. La capital de Aruba es ORANJESTAD, con una arquitec

La capital de Aruba es ORANJESTAD, con una arquitectura típicamente holandesa con alguna influencia española. Los edificios están pintados en los brillantes colores característicos del ámbito del Caribe. Grandes trasatlánticos, cargados de pasajeros y de mercancias atracan regularmente en su puerto. Es excitante pasearse en los días de gran tráfico marítimo por los espaciosos muelles. La imaginación vuela tras los nombres de lejanas tierras impresos en las balas de mercancías. Yokohama, Hong Kong, Italia o Nor-

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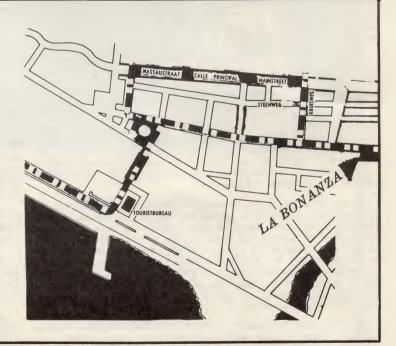
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Las mercancías traídas de los más distantes rincones del mundo hacen que el centro de Oranjestad constituya una verdadera tentación para el turista. Relojes suizos, cámaras, perfumes, sweaters de Cachemira, sedas, azulejos holandeses, loza fina, binoculares, licores, lanas y otros tejidos, piedras preciosas, miniaturas de porcelana, novedades tejidas en paja, esculturas de marfin del Oriente, cristalería, tallados en madera de Indonesia y China, artículos de cuero, vajillas de plata, oro, etc., son artículos que, gracias a los bajos impuestos de importación su pueden comprar aquí a precios muy ventajosos.

Una atracción turística es la caleta de Oranjestad donde están anclados innúmeros barquichuelos procedentes de diversos lugares del Caribe. Allí se encuentra el bullicioso mercado donde en puestos amplios y soleados, despliegan los barqueros sus tentadoras mercancías.

Llenos de colorido son los puestos de frutas, legumbres, y hortalizas. En este mercado al aire libre los compradores son tan pintorescos como las frutas que allí se venden. Los oídos se nos llenan con la confusa sinfonía de diversos lenguajes.

Junto al mar, muy cerca del puerto, está el bien cuidado PARQUE WILHELMINA, así llamado en honor de la reina madre Guillermina de Holanda. En el centro de la plaza, rodeada de flores y de umbrosas alamedas está una hermosa estatua de la recordada reina.

El clima de Aruba está considerado entre los mejores del Caribe. La lluvia es escasa y los días son frescos por el contínuo fluir de los vientos Alisios. En este clima seco medra el DIVI DIVI, un árbol que, azotado por el contínuo batir del viento crece en las más extrañas formas, siguiendo siempre la dirección del viento. Para fines industriales se cultiva el áloe, planta liliácea de la cual se extrae un jugo muy amargo usado en medicina. En el campo crecen los cactos; las casas típicas arubanas tienen una pintoresca cerca de cactos. A los arubanos les encantan las flores y se esmeran en cultivarlas. La mayoría de los hogares están rodeados de buganvillas, adelfas, flamboyanes e hibiscos.

Aruba tiene muchos lugares de interés que son dignos de ser visitados. Entre ellos se encuentran las playas de PALM BEACH e EAGLE BEACH que pueden contarse entre las más bellas del mundo. La blanca arena se extiende por varias millas a lo largo de la costa y declina suavemente hacia las turquesas aguas del Caribe ofreciendo, en su mansedumbre, una excelente oportunidad para esquiar sobre el agua, navegar y nadar. En el mar que circunda nuestra isla pululan una extensa variedad de peces, haciéndolo propicio para los diferentes tipos de pesca.

Un distintivo del paisaje arubano es el HOOIBERG (Colina Almiar); para el que desee escalarla hay una escalera que conduce hasta la misma cima.

Al norte de la isla hay bien abrigadas ensenadas que ofrecen sitios ideales para excursiones campestres. Para aquellos a quienes les gusta nadar en un fuerte oleaje este lado de la isla es perfecto. Dos de las más curiosas ensenadas son ANDICURI y DOS PLAYAS; peñascos imponentes se internan en el mar desafiando el embate de las olas que van a estrellarse contra ellos con estentóreo ruido, formando así un violento contraste con las apacibles arenas de la ensenada. Sumamente interesante es el PUENTE NATURAL obra arquitectónica de la naturaleza, socavada en la dura roca por la incesante embestida del mar; no deje de visitarlo así como también a BOCA DRUIF, que es una gruta junto a las dunas de BOCA PRINS.

El CUNUCU, que quiere decir campo en papiamento, está punteado por casitas de vivos colores y por impresionantes formaciones rocosas. Las más imponentes se encuentran en AYO y CASIBARI donde la naturaleza acumuló una sobre otra tremendas masas de granito de miles de toneladas de peso. En AYO Ud. puede explorarlas internándose por intrincados laberintos. En CASIBARI está la BOCA DEL DRAGON, que es una curiosa formación favorita de los fotógrafos.

Los que están interesados en la cultura autóctona, encontrarán antiguos dibujos indígenas en las paredes de las cavernas de FONTEIN y de CANASHITO, y en las rocas de ARIKOK y AYO.

Los espeleólogos hallarán un reto en las grutas de QUA-DARIKIRI y HULIBA.

Otro sitio de interés es la iglesia y el cementerio de SANTA ANA. La iglesia tiene un magnífico y centenario altar gótico de roble, tallado a mano.

También el CASTILLO DE LOS PIRATAS en BUSHIRI-BANA, montado sobre un promontorio, frente a la costa de barlovento. Las ruinas de este "castillo" son en realidad las ruinas de una vieja mina de oro, reliquia de lo que fuera la primera industria de Aruba. En BALASHI están las ruinas de otra mina de oro.

La LAGUNA ESPAÑOLA recibió ese nombre por que allí reparaban sus buques los bucaneros españoles. El sitio es conocido hoy por su hermoso y apacible panorama.

En el FRENCHMAN'S PASS o sea PASO DEL FRANCES fué donde, según la leyenda, los indios pelearon contra los franceses para defender la isla de los invasores extranjeros. Actualmente es predio de bullangueros periquitos arubanos.

Al otro lado de la Isla está situado SAN NICOLAS, construido alrededor de la refinería petrolera, donde varios almacenes de Oranjestad tienen sucursales para la conveniencia de los que desembarcan en la parte oriental de Aruba.



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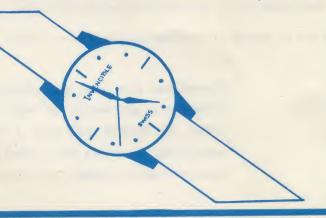
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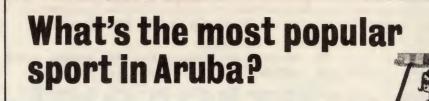
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- 3. Gifts to friends and relatives in the U.S. up to \$10

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